

October 23, 2000

22401 Long Grove Rd.
Deer Park, IL 60010

0679 '00 OCT 27 P1:40

U.S. Food and Drug Administration,
Dockets Management Branch,
5630 Fishers Lane,
Room # 1061, Docket # 98P-0151/CP1
Rockville, MD 20852

RE: Docket Number # 98P-0151/CP1
Downed Animals protection

Dear FDA,

I'm writing to request that you help end the horrific downed animal trade. Please grant the petition to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals as presented by www.NoDowners.org, the Farm Sanctuary Campaign.

Animals who are too sick or injured even to stand should not be allowed to enter the human food chain.

In addition to posing an increased risk for bacterial contamination, there is evidence that some downed animals may be afflicted with a form of BSE (Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy or "Mad Cow Disease"), a disease which has been linked to a fatal human illness (CJD or Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease).

It is impossible to move downed animals humanely, and they are typically pushed with tractors or dragged with chains – inhumane processes which cause injuries ranging from bruises and abrasions, to broken bones and torn ligaments.

Downed animals comprise a very small percentage of animals slaughtered, and prohibiting their marketing will cause no undue economic hardship.

Industry experts have estimated that 90% percent of downed animals can be prevented with better care and handling. Removing the market for downed animals will provide an incentive to industry to prevent downed animals in the first place.

Farm Sanctuary and other animal protection organizations are lobbying to pass the Downed Animal Protection Act (H.R. 443 & S. 515) in Washington, DC. This commonsense measure requires that animals who are too sick to stand (i.e. "downed animals") be humanely euthanized at stockyards.

I agree they should be HUMANELY euthanized at stockyards and remove the market for downed animals.

98P-0151

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Please help make this the LAW! Please grant this petition for the animal cruelty and health reasons.

I also like to show you a few photos of downed animals cruelty and suffering by going to the following websites :

http://www.nodowners.org/gallery/route87_2.htm

http://www.nodowners.org/gallery/cow_downed3.htm

http://www.nodowners.org/gallery/cow_downed1.htm

Thanks you.

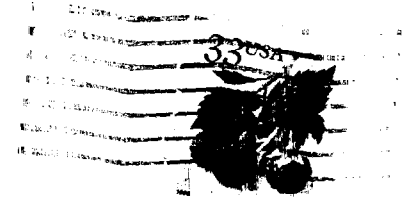
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rachel Thompson". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Rachel" and the last name "Thompson" clearly distinguishable.

Rachel Thompson



Mr. Rachel Besser
22401 Long Grove Rd.
Deer Park, IL 60010



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